

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 144725

62

ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 NSC-05 DIWY-01 PA-01 SSO-00

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DRAFTED BY TEXT REC'D FROM WHITE HOUSE

APPROVED BY S/S:RKUCHEL

D:RDUEMLING

D/IWY:MRS. HAGERTY (INFO)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO NIACT IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SGEN

SUBJECT: MESSAGE TO IWY CONFERENCE FROM MRS. FORD

FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF A MESSAGE FROM MRS. FORD TO THE IWY CONFERENCE. IT SHOULD BE READ TO THE CONFERENCE BY MRS. HUTAR WHEN SHE MAKES THE OPENING STATEMENT FOR THE US DELEGATION ON JUNE 20. YOU SHOULD DISREGARD ANY PREVIOUS TEXT YOU MAY HAVE RECEIVED OF A MESSAGE FROM MRS. FORD.

BEGIN TEXT: AS I AM UNABLE TO BE WITH YOU IN MEXICO CITY, I SEND MY CORDIAL GREETINGS TO MRS. ECHEVERRIA, SECRETARY GENERAL SIPILA, AND TO ALL WHO ARE ATTENDING THIS HISTORIC CONFERENCE.

I WISH YOU TO KNOW THAT THE PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES ARE FIRMLY COMMITTED TO THE GOALS OF THIS CONFERENCE AND TO THE WORK THAT MUST FOLLOW IT IF THOSE GOALS ARE TO BE REACHED.

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PAGE 02 STATE 144725

THE HIGH PURPOSE OF INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR -- TO
PROMOTE THE EQUALITY OF WOMEN -- TRULY ENHANCES THE
EQUALITY OF US ALL. AS MY HUSBAND SAID ON THE OCCASION OF
ANNOUNCING OUR OWN NATIONAL COMMISSION ON THE OBSERVANCE
OF INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR, THE SEARCH TO SECURE
RIGHTS FOR WOMEN FREES BOTH SEXES FROM RESTRICTIVE
STEREOTYPES. LIBERATION OF THE SPIRIT OPENS NEW
POSSIBILITIES FOR THE FUTURE OF ALL INDIVIDUALS AND
OF ALL NATIONS. I AM AWED BY THE TASK YOU FACE, I AM
INSPIRED BY THE OPPORTUNITY YOU HAVE FOR PROGRESS.

I KNOW THAT THE CO-LEADERS OF THE UNITED STATES
DELEGATION, MRS. HUTAR AND ADMINISTRATOR PARKER,
AND THEIR COLLEAGUES, WILL WORK UNCEASINGLY WITH YOU IN
A SPIRIT OF COOPERATION TO MAKE THE CONFERENCE ON
INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR A LANDMARK IN THE HISTORY OF
WOMEN'S AFFAIRS AND OF HUMANITY'S SEARCH FOR PEACE
AND UNDERSTANDING. END TEXT. KISSINGER

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